

Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 AF-04 ARA-06 EUR-08 NEA-07

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SP-02 L-01 PM-03 DODE-00 PRS-01 /067 W

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O R 042330Z SEP 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9003

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USLO PEKING

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 3578

LIMDIS

D.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KS, KN

SUBJECT: KOREA AT 31ST UNGA: CORE GROUP MEETING SEPTEMBER 2, 1976

REF: (A) STATE 218289 (NOTAL); (B) USUN 3490

1. SUMMARY: AS SEPTEMBER 3 SCHEDULING PROVED INCONVENIENT
FOR SOME OF CORE GROUP, MEETING RESCHEDULED FOR AFTERNOON
OF SEPTEMBER 2 AT US MISSION. MEETING AT WORKING-LEVEL WAS
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CHAired BY ROK. ALL MEMBERS WERE REPRESENTED. IN DIS-

CUSSION REGARDING FRIENDLY COSPONSORSHIP, BELGIUM REPORTED THAT LUXEMBOURG MAY COSPONSOR SOON. ADDITIONALLY, GROUP DISCUSSED DISCOURAGEMENT OF HOSTILE COSPONSORSHIP. CONCLUSION WAS THAT TOO MUCH ACTIVITY IN THIS LATTER RESPECT MIGHT PROVE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. IN THE CASE OF SENEGAL, HOWEVER, MORE WORK MIGHT BE HELPFUL. CORE GROUP DEVOTED MUCH OF SESSION TO DISCUSSING STRATEGY AND TACTICS OF DEFERMENT. CONCLUSION WAS THAT, WHILE COMPOSITION OF GENERAL COMMITTEE EMERGING REASONABLY FAVORABLY AT PRESENT, THERE WAS NEED FOR SOUNDINGS TO ENABLE SATISFACTORY ESTIMATE OF HOW UNGA PELNARY MIGHT VOTE ON A GENERAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR DEFERMENT. GROUP AGREED TO ASK CAPITALS FOR APPROVAL BY NEXT CORE GROUP MEETING ON P.M. SEPTEMBER 8, BOTH OF PRINCIPLE OF SEEKING DEFERMENT AS WELL AS OF APPROACH TO PARTY SUCH AS AUSTRALIA (SUGGESTED BY NEW ZEALAND, FRANCE WAS MENTIONED ALSO TO INITIATE SOUNDINGS ON PLENARY VOTE. JAPAN AND UK EXPRESSED SOME RESERVE REGARDING DEFERMENT. ROK SOPKE UP TO SAY THAT IT WOULD MUCH PREFER DEFERMENT TO PASSAGE OF TWO RESOLUTIONS, PARTICULARLY GIVEN HOSTILITY OF PRO-DPPK TEXT. END SUMMARY.

1. ATTRACTION OF FRIENDLY COSPONSORS:

(A) BELGIUM REPORTED THAT LUXEMBOURG MAY COSPONSOR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION VERY SOON. LUXEMBOURG'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE HAD SAID SO TO BELGIUM'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE.

(B) ROK REPORTED THAT CAR PERM REP BANDIO HAD CALLED ON ROK PERMANENT OBSERVER MOON TO SAY THAT CAR WOULD COSPONSOR. (ROK TOLD US LATER THAT BANDIO SAID SOON.) ROK ADDED THAT ITS AMBASSADOR IN BANGUI HAD MET CAR PRESIDENT BOKASSA TO INVITE COSPONSORSHIP.

(C) US REPORTED THAT AMBASSADOR BENNETT HAD CALLED IN LIBERIA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE BROOKS-RANDOLPH ON AUGUST 27 TO URGE COSPONSORSHIP. BROOKS-RANDOLPH SAID SHE WOULD REPORT THIS TO MONROVIA.

(D) ROK REPORTED THAT EL SALVADOR WOULD SUPPORT FRIENDLY RESOLUTION BUT THAT DECISION AS TO COSPONSORSHIP NOT YET MADE.

(E) U.S. SAID WORD HAD BEEN RECEIVED OF INDICATIONS THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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THE GAMBIA MAY COSPONSOR.

(F) FRG REPORTED THAT CORE GROUP REPRESENTATIVES IN KINSHASA FELT FURTHER DEMARCHES FOR ZAIRE'S SUPPORT MIGHT NOT BE PRODUCTIVE GIVEN ZAIRE'S HIGH-LEVEL OF PRO-ROK ACTIVITY AT COLOMBO.

3. DISCOURAGEMENT OF HOSTILE COSPONSORSHIP

(A) EGYPT: FRG REPORTED THAT CAIRO WOULD CONSIDER FRG

DEMARCHE BUT WAS AS YET UNDECIDED AS TO COSPONSORSHIP OF HOSTILE RESOLUTION.

(B) GHANA: ROK REPORTED THAT CONVERSATIONS WITH A GHANIAN REPRESENTATIVE IN NEW YORK SUGGESTED THAT GHANA MIGHT TAKE A NEUTRAL POSITION THIS YEAR. UK REPORTED THAT LONDON DID NOT FAVOR A UK DEMARCHE AT ACCRA. ROK ADDED THAT GHANIANS HAD SAID THAT, IF US EFFORTS TO BE HELPFUL IN SOUTHERN AFRICA SUCCEED, THIS WOULD INFLUENCE POSITIONS OF AFRICAN STATES ON KOREA.

(D) UPPER VOLTA: GROUP CONSIDERED THAT INDICATIONS WERE THAT UPPER VOLTA WOULD AVOID COSPONSORSHIP OF HOSTILE RESOLUTION THIS YEAR AND THAT EXCESSIVE PRESSURE FROM FRIENDLY SIDE SHOULD NOT OCCUR.

(MAURITANIA: FRG REPORTED NO CHANGE IN MAURITANIA'S POSITION THAT IT WOULD AVOID COSPONSORSHIP OF HOSTILE RESOLUTION.

(F) SENEGAL: JAPAN CONSIDERED SENEGAL TO BE THE ONE FORMER HOSTILE COSPONSOR TO WHICH FURTHER APPROACHES WERE NOW INDICATED. IN THIS CONNECTION, JAPAN ALLUDED TO FACT THAT SENEGAL'S UN REPRESENTATIVE FALL MORE RADICAL THAN HIS PRINCIPALS IN DAKAR. THEREFORE, IT IMPORTANT THAT PRINCIPALS IN DAKAR BE ENCOURAGED TO SEE TO IT THAT SENEGAL'S UN MISSION HOLDS SAME COURSE AS DAKAR'S. (ROK TOLD US IT BELIEVES SENEGAL'S PERM REP INSTRUCTED MEET GOV. SCRANTON ON KOREA).

(G) NORTH YEMEN: FRG REPORTED NO CHANGE IN NORTH YEMEN'S PROBABLE NEUTRAL STANCE THIS YEAR.

(H) YUGOSLAVIA: MEMBERS OF GROUP EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN FACT YUGOSLAVIA HAD NOT, AS YET AT LEAST, COSPONSORED HOSTILE RESOLUTION THIS YEAR. CORE GROUP CONSIDERED THAT, IN BELGRADE AS WELL AS IN OTHER CAPITALS OF FORMER HOSTILE COSPONSORS, LOCAL CONVENERS SHOULD CALL TOGETHER CORE GROUP REPRESENTA-
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TIVES TO DISCUSS WHAT IF ANY FURTHER ACTION WAS DESIRABLE AT THIS POINT. (I) SUDAN: UK AS CONVENER IN KHARTOUM SAID IT WOULD PUT UP TO LONDON POSSIBILITY OF DEMARCHE IN KHARTOUM.

(CAPE VERDE: US REPORTED CONTACT WITH CAPE VERDE'S AMBASSADOR VARELA IN WASHINGTON TO DISCOURAGE COSPONSORSHIP OF HOSTILE TEXT.

4. STRATEGY AND TACTICS OF DEFERMENT:

(A) ROK REPORTED ON EMERGING COMPOSITION OF GENERAL COMMITTEE. SITUATION SAME AS REPORTED PARA 9 REFTTEL
(B) WITH FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

(I) JAPAN HAD BEEN ENDORSED BY ASIAN GROUP FOR A VICE PRESIDENCY;

(II) FIJI HAD DROPPED ITS CANDIDACY FOR A VICE PRESIDENCY; AND

(III) OMAN REPORTEDLY HAD GAINED ARAB LEAGUE
ENDORSEMENT OF ITS CANDIDACY FOR A VICE PRESIDENCY. IT
REMAINED, HOWEVER, FOR THE ASIAN GROUP TO ENDORSE OMAN RATHER
THAN SOUTH YEMEN FOR SECOND ASIAN VICE PRESIDENCY.

(B) IN CONSIDERING OPTION OF DEFERMENT, ROK
UNDERLINED THAT IT MUCH PREFERRED DEFERMENT TO PASSAGE
OF TWO RESOLUTIONS PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF EXTREMELY HOSTILE
PRO-DPPK RESOLUTION. UK EXPRESSED RESERVATION THAT DEFER-
MENT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED A GAGGING OF DEBATE AND, THEREFORE,
MIGHT BE IMPOSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE AND NOT SIT WELL IN LONDON.
ADDITIONALLY, UK FELT IT MIGHT BE WISER TO "BET OUR MONEY
ON OUR OWN HORSE, AND LEAVE IT TO OTHERS TO SPEAK UP FOR

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 3578

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DEFERMENT. THE UK UNDERLINED THAT THE CONSEQUENCES OF OUR SIDE'S BEING "CAUGHT OUT " IN SEEKING DEFERMENT COULD BE VERY DAMAGING. JAPAN, FELT THAT, WHEREAS AS IN PAST, TIDE SEEMED TO BE RUNNING AGAINST FRIENDLY SIDE, TIDE MAY NOW HAVE CHANGED AND BE RUNNING WITH OUR SIDE.(COMMENT: WE BELIEVE IT PREMATURE TO BE OPTIMISTIC IN THIS REGARD. END COMMENT.) THEREFORE, IN JAPAN'S VIEW,WHILE DEFERMENT PREFERABLE TO ADOPTION OF TWO RESOLUTIONS, IT MIGHT NOT BE AS DESIRABLE AN OPTION AS IT HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE RISKS
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INVOLVED IN SEEKING DEFERMENT. ADDITIONALLY, THE IVORY COAST'S KNOWLEDGEABLE AMBASSADOR AKE, HAD TOLD JAPAN'S AMBASSADOR ABE THAT HE DOUBTED THE PLENARY WOULD ADOPT A RECOMMENDATION FOR DEFERMENT, BELGIUM SAID SUCCESS IN SEEKING DEFERMENT WOULD BE A "TRIUMPH", DEFEAT, A "DISASTER". BELGIUM STRESSED WE SHOULD SEEK DEFERMENT ONLY IF WE WERE QUITE SURE OF SUCCESS. CANADA, WHICH HAD COMMENTED EARLIER THAT IT HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY AUSTRALIA'S MISSION TO LEARN WHAT ROLE AUSTRALIA MIGHT PLAY IN THE GENERAL COMMITTEE, SUGGESTED THAT A MOVE FOR DEFERRAL COULD COME FROM A THIRD PARTY. THIS PARTY (OR PARTIES) COULD STRESS THAT FURTHER DEBATE WOULD BE FRUITLESS AND DIVISIVE. IF ASKED WHAT THE POSITION OF PRO-ROK SIDE WAS ON DEFERMENT, IT COULD SAY THAT A MOVE FOR DEFERMENT OF UNGA DEBATE ON KOREA WOULD SEEM QUITE CONSISTENT WITH PRO-ROK SIDE'S STEADY EFFORT THIS YEAR TO ENCOURAGE REPLACEMENT OF FRUITLESS UNGA CONFRONTATION WITH CONSTRUCTIVE SOUTH/NORTH DIALOGUE. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THIS LATTER LINE OF REASONING.

(C) GROUP CONSIDERED THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO ESTIMATE RISKS INVOLVED IN DEFERMENT WITHOUT SOUNDINGS ON THE PROBABLE VOTE IN PLENARY SHOULD THE GENERAL COMMITTEE RECOMMEND DEFERMENT. NEW ZEALAND SUGGESTED THAT AUSTRALIA MIGHT BE ASKED TO INITIATE SUCH SOUNDINGS. (FRANCE ALSO MENTIONED). US THEN SUGGESTED THAT A PARTY SUCH AS AUSTRALIA MIGHT BE ASKED TO APPROACH, FOR INSTANCE, NEUTRALS SUCH AS THE ASEAN'S AND NORDICS AND POSSIBLY INVITE ONE OF THEM TO TAKE A FEW SOMEWHAT BROADER SOUNDINGS. POINT WAS ALSO MADE THAT IT UNWISE TO BEGIN INTENSIVE SOUNDINGS WITHIN GENERAL COMMITTEE ITSELF BEFORE POSSIBILITIES OF SUCCESS IN PLENARY WERE KNOWN. ACCORDINGLY, GROUP AGREED TO ASK CAPITALS FOR APPROVAL OF PRINCIPLE OF SEEKING DEFERMENT AS WELL AS FOR APPROVAL OF APPROACH TO A THIRD PARTY OR PARTIES TO TAKE AND INVITE SOUNDINGS REGARDING OUTCOME OF A PLENARY VOTE ON DEFERMENT. MEMBERS WERE TO ASK THEIR CAPITALS TO RESPOND IN TIME FOR A CORE GROUP MEETING ON P.M. OF SEPTEMBER 8.
BENNETT

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